



Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School
NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 14/01/2022

Diary Dates

School day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
18/1/22	5B & 5D Virtual Parent Consultation 4pm-7pm
25/1/22	7A & 7C Maths & Eng Virtual Parent Consultation 4pm-7pm
26/1/22	7B Maths Virtual Parent Consultation 4pm-7pm
27/1/22	7D Maths Virtual Parent Consultation 4pm-7pm
2/2/22	Y6 SATS Teams Meeting with Parents at 5:30pm
9/2/22	KS3 2 nd Covid Vaccine - Pfizer
14-18/2/22	Half Term
22/2/22	Year 8 Foundation Subjects Virtual Parent Consultation 4pm-7pm
28/2/22	Y6 Mock SATS week
14/3/22	Y6 Lancaster Model
15/3/22	Y6 Lancaster Model
9- 12/5/22	Y6 SATS week
27/6/22	Occasional Day

What is the latest COVID update?

We are pleased to announce that Public Health have advised that due to the low number of positive cases, we can now begin to release our COVID Outbreak plan. We will talk to students on Tuesday and explain that all lunches and Collective Worship in Year groups, will now take place in the school hall and they are no longer restricted to designated year group play areas. As from Tuesday, students should wear their school uniform and bring their PE kit to get changed on the days they have PE lessons. However, as some students find this difficult, please notify the Learning Zone so they can continue to wear their PE kit. It does mean that we can now get back to planning school trips and activities to enrich their school experience.

When are the next Covid-19 vaccinations taking place?

We have received notification from the NHS Immunisation team that the second Covid-19 vaccination for **Year 8 [and children aged 12 and above]** will take place on 9/2/22. They have confirmed it will be a Pfizer vaccine. We encourage you to get your child vaccinated, as while not completely secure, it was evident that those vaccinated were far less likely to get the virus prior to Christmas.

How will Edwinstree work with the new first school in Buntingford?

Attached is the press release issued by Herts County Council in regard to the new Scholars' Education Trust first school in Buntingford. It explains that due to a delay in the planning permission process, the new school building will not open until Easter 2023 at the earliest. The Governors have agreed to support the new school with a temporary set of classrooms within the Edwinstree school site, located on the school playing field. Edwinstree will also provide access to its gym, hall and outdoor play area, while the new school is being built.

Why have we decided to help?

Working in partnership with first and upper schools has enabled Edwinstree to flourish and provide the best education for the children of Buntingford. It is really important that we work together. Our site is extensive and, with careful planning, the temporary new school should provide positive opportunities for the students of Edwinstree to support and care for the younger age groups. We are excited to be part of this new project.

If you have any questions regarding this development, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will endeavour to answer them. Please email head@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk. We will continue to keep you updated with developments as the project proceeds.

What visitors where in school this week?

This week, we welcomed our School Improvement Advisor for County and three of our school Governors, who visited the school to carry out a review of our progress towards a COVID recovery. It was pleasing to hear how impressed our Advisor was with the students she met, their commitment to the school and their learning. The visitors all remarked on what a purposeful and determined learning atmosphere they felt within the school and how welcoming everyone was.

Instrumental lessons

Instrumental lessons have now started back in school and your child should have received a timetable for the half term - either for the tutor room or an individual one. There is always a copy of the timetable outside the music room to refer to.

A gentle reminder, that it is not the teacher's responsibility to collect students from lessons, but students to make their own way to their lesson.

When are the next Parents' Consultation evenings?

Thank you for 100% sign up from our Year 5 Parents' Consultation evening, we roll out the second set of parents' consultation evenings for 5B & 5D next Tuesday. We are bringing some of the Y7 Maths and English parents evenings forward to before half term, please see the changes in the calendar dates. We will notify you when further dates have been confirmed.

When will the PP Homelearning Club start?

PP Homelearning support club begins next week. A Parentmail had gone out to PP parents inviting your child to attend, to sign up please click on the link to the online form. Please remember, if you are struggling to provide your child with a device to access 'Show My Homework' please let us know.

Year 6 Lancaster Model questionnaire

The Public Health Nursing Team have now rescheduled and will visit on 14th & 15th March for Year 6 students to complete the online survey in the ICT suite. Further information to follow.

*As a Christian school we recognise the unique and wonderful in everyone.
As a community we support one another to flourish and live life in all its fullness.*

Can you help us to keep our school clean?

It has reached that time of year, when we ask you to provide a change of shoes for your child to bring into school. We don't mind whether they are wellies to wear outside, old trainers or funky slippers for indoors, but students do need a change of footwear. Our cleaners are having a terrible time getting the walked in mud out of the carpets! As our numbers have increased in the last five years, we are struggling to fit all the children on the playground, we need to use some of our field space but it does generate mud! We will be holding some competitions based around the funkiest slippers in a class!

Recruitment

We are currently recruiting for an Administration Officer and Secretary to the Headteacher, please visit the Vacancies page on our website:
www.edwinstree.herts.sch.uk for more information.

Jo Gant
Headteacher
Press Release

*As a Christian school we recognise the unique and wonderful in everyone.
As a community we support one another to flourish and live life in all its fullness.*